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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

4 JANUARY 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento – California Court Rejects Early Releases for Violent Crime

(U) The California Supreme Court unanimously ruled Monday that corrections officials do not need to consider earlier release for violent felons, even those whose primary offense is considered nonviolent under state law. The ruling stems from inmates' latest attempt to expand the application of a 2016 initiative. The high court ruled that corrections officials acted properly in drafting regulations that "exclude from nonviolent offender early parole consideration any inmate who 'is currently serving a term of incarceration for a 'violent felony'." The justices said that includes prisoners serving sentences for a combination of violent and nonviolent felonies.

SOURCE: 3 January 2022, KCRA

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Border Patrol Arrests Gang Member, Multiple Child Sex Offenders

(U) Edinburg – On 31 December, Kingsville Border Patrol Station agents arrested a group of migrants that attempted to cross the Border Patrol checkpoint in Sarita, Texas. While processing, an MS-13 gang member was identified within the group. On 2 January, McAllen Border Patrol Station (MCS) agents arrested three migrants after they illegally entered the United States through Hidalgo, Texas. Criminal records checks obtained at a Border Patrol processing facility revealed that one of the individuals had been previously convicted of burglary and child sex offenses in 1998. Later that night, MCS agents discovered a group of nine individuals in Sullivan City, Texas. Within the group, Luis Felipe Aguilar-Diaz was discovered to be a registered sex offender. All subjects were processed accordingly.

SOURCE: 3 January 2022, DHS CBP

(U) Texas – Six Incidents in Three Days at I-35 Checkpoint Led to Discovery of Nearly 100 Migrants

(U) Laredo – The US Border Patrol (USBP) announced Saturday that nearly 100 migrants were apprehended in incidents occurring between 28-30 December at the Interstate 35 checkpoint. On three separate incidents, Service K-9 Units alerted agents to two trailers and a box truck where USBP discovered dozens of migrants. Another seven individuals were found stowed away during three vehicle inspections.

SOURCE: 3 January 2022, LMTonline

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Identifies Suicide Bomber Behind Kabul Airport Attack

(U) Washington – The United States has put together a profile of the suicide bomber who killed 13 US troops and 200 civilians outside Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul four months ago. The Afghan affiliate of the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) terrorist attack was carried out by Abdul Rahman Al-Logari. The terrorist was a one-time engineering student was freed from a high security prison by the Taliban.

SOURCE: 1 January 2022, New York Post

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(U) District of Columbia - DHS Issues Warning Ahead of First Anniversary of Capitol Riot

(U) Washington – Federal officials are warning that "threat actors" may take advantage of the upcoming anniversary of the 6 January attack on the US Capitol, though there are currently no specific or credible threats, according to an intelligence assessment issued Thursday to state and local officials. The assessment, which was prepared by the Department of Homeland Security, FBI, US Capitol Police, and other law enforcement agencies, warned that lone offenders are the most likely threat to the upcoming anniversary. It identified that conspiracy theories about election fraud continue to resonate among domestic violent extremists and could again inspire some to promote or commit violence. Additionally, China, Iran, and Russia have amplified content regarding the Capitol breach or the upcoming anniversary and continue to spread narratives about US election fraud.

SOURCE: 31 December 2021, ABC News

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Columbia - At least 23 Killed In Clashes Between Armed Groups

(U) Arauca – As many as 23 people have been killed in clashes between rival guerrilla groups in Colombia's northern Arauca area. Colombia's ombudsman said that fighting first erupted between the National Liberation Army (ELN), the largest leftist guerrilla group in the country, and dissident factions of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, in the early hours of 2 January. The ELN and FARC dissident groups were fighting over control of illegal economies such as drug trafficking. Officials said that the Colombian army would deploy two battalions with helicopter and intelligence capabilities to restore calm in Arauca, adding that the Defense Minister would also travel to the region on Monday evening.

SOURCE: 3 January 2022, CNN

(U) Haiti – Haitian Prime Minister Survives Weekend Assassination Attempt

(U) Port-Au-Prince – Gunmen unsuccessfully attempted to assassinate Haitian Prime Minister Ariel Henry during an event on Saturday commemorating the country's independence. Video footage broadcast on social media showed Henry and his entourage scrambling toward their vehicles as an armed group began shooting outside a cathedral in Gonaives. Haitian media pointed to possible gang involvement in the shooting, which reportedly killed one person and injured two. Gangs' hold on parts of Haiti has strengthened since the assassination of President Jovenel Moise in July. SOURCE: 3 January 2022, Reuters

(U) Iraq – Second Armed Drone Attack Attempted on US-Led Coalition Forces

(U) Bagdad – Two explosives-laden drones targeting an Iraqi military base housing US troops in western Anbar province were destroyed on Tuesday, a coalition official said. It was the second such attempted attack coinciding with the anniversary of the 2020 US airstrike that killed a top Iranian general near the Baghdad airport. On Monday, two armed drones were shot down as they headed toward a facility at Baghdad airport housing US advisors. According to the official, the fixed-wing drones rigged with explosives were engaged and destroyed by defensive capabilities at the Ain al-Asad airbase. There were no reports of damage or injuries from the incident. No group claimed responsibility for the attack, although one of the wings of the drones reportedly had the words "Soleimani's revenge" painted on it. SOURCE: 4 January 2022, ABC News

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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